



McKenna Kellogg holds the 5A championship trophy high while she and her teammates celebrate the Bengals' title.

Brighton girls win 5A state soccer title

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Prior to this season, the last two years had been heartbreak for Brighton High's girls' soccer team. Losses to Davis in the 5A quarterfinals and to Northridge in the first round didn't exactly characterize a team that competes for region and state championships on a yearly basis.

All that was soon forgotten this season, as the Bengals captured their third state championship over the last nine seasons with a 1-0 win over Viewmont.

Sydney Meyers' free kick in the 64th minute accounted for the only scoring in the game. The same two teams had met in 2010 to decide the state championship, with Brighton also winning 1-0.

The win culminated a memorable postseason run for the Bengals, who outscored their four playoff opponents 16-0. It started with a 6-0 win over West in the first round, followed by wins over Davis (4-0) and Fremont (5-0) leading up to the championship game.

Jocelyn Loomis scored twice against West, while Angie Timm, Nadia Gomes, Stephanie Ringwood and Raquel Watt each had one. Brighton led 2-0 at halftime before scoring four goals in the second half. Tamaryn Braun and Carly Olson shared the shutout in the nets.

Gomes had a pair of goals against Davis, while Ringwood and Meyers had one apiece. Olson and Braun again teamed for the shutout. Brighton exploded for five second-half goals in a span of 17 minutes to break a scoreless game against Fremont. Gomes had a hat trick and Meyers and Jayde Jones also scored. Braun kept the shutout streak going with another solid performance.

The Bengals, who finished second in Region 3 behind Alta, were 16-2-1 overall. Brighton's only losses this season came against Alta and Maple Mountain. The Bengals also tied Alta. Brighton outscored opponents 68-11 for the season, averaging more than three goals per game.